## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

LEON DE BEER

: ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN

(Based on PCT/GB00/00114)

FILED: HEREWITH

: EXAMINER:

FOR: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR:

**ROUTING COMMUNICATIONS** 

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 2 wherein the decision is based at least in part on performance of at least one network selected in accordance with the preferred route.

5. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the preferred route codes further determine a choice of a further network (5A,5B,5C) for forward connection between a network (8A) of the service provider of the selected communication channel and the call destination (2) via the further network.

2/1/12/01